

APPROVED JUNE 4, 2015

The special meeting of the Douglas County Board of Commissioners was held on May 18, 2015 in the Douglas County Commissioner Meeting Room of the Douglas County Administration Building, 1616-8th Street, Minden, Nevada, beginning at 4:00 p.m.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Doug N. Johnson, Chairman; Nancy McDermid, Vice Chairwoman; Greg Lynn, Commissioner; Barry Penzel, Commissioner and Steve Thaler, Commissioner.

STAFF PRESENT: Kathy Lewis, Clerk-Treasurer; James Nichols, County Manager; Mark Jackson, District Attorney; Christine Vuletich, Assistant County Manager/Chief Financial Officer; Marcie Schurke, Budget Analyst II; and Laure Penny, Clerk to the Board.

Many Department Heads and staff members were present in the audience.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Jim Nichols led the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

For possible action. Approval of proposed agenda.

MOTION by Lynn/Penzel to approve the agenda as presented; carried with McDermid late arrival.

Chairman Johnson stated Vice Chairwoman McDermid was running late but would be here in time for Item 1.

Vice Chairwoman McDermid arrived right after Motion to approve agenda.

ADMINISTRATIVE AGENDA

1. For possible action. Public Hearing on the FY 2015-2016 Tentative Budgets and adoption of the FY 2015-16 Final Budgets for Douglas County, Douglas County Redevelopment Agency, the Towns of Gardnerville, Genoa, and Minden, East Fork Fire Protection Districts, and the Tahoe-Douglas Transportation District per NRS 354.596 and 354.598. (approx. 20 min)

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This meeting may be the final public hearing on the FY 2015/2016 budget. The Board of Commissioners is required to hold this budget hearing in accordance with NRS 354.596 and 354.598. This meeting may contain discussion on and will adopt the final budgets for the following funds:

**General Fund
Regional Transportation Fund
Road Operating Fund
Tahoe-Douglas Transportation District Fund
Redevelopment Agency Operating Fund
Redevelopment Agency Capital Projects Fund
Stabilization Fund
NV Cooperative Extension Fund
Airport Fund
Douglas County Water District Fund
Solid Waste Fund
Landscape Maintenance Districts Fund
State Motor Vehicle Accident Indigent Fund
State Medical Assistance to Indigents Fund
Social Services Fund
Law Library Fund
Room Tax Fund
Justice Court Administrative Assessment Fund
China Spring Youth Camp Fund
Western Nevada Regional Youth Facility Fund
Erosion Control Fund
911 Emergency Services Fund
Senior Services Fund
Risk Management Fund
Dental Insurance Fund
Motor Pool/Vehicle Maintenance Fund
Ridgeview Water District Fund
Regional Water District Fund
Sewer Utility Fund
Carson Valley Water Utility Fund
Lake Tahoe Water Utility Fund
Extraordinary Maintenance Fund
Ad Valorem Capital Projects Fund
County Construction Fund
Park Residential Construction Tax Fund
County Debt/Other Resources Fund
East Fork Fire District Operating Fund
East Fork Fire Emergency Fund
East Fork Fire Debt Service Fund
Town of Gardnerville Funds
Town of Genoa Funds
Town of Minden Funds**

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James Nichols, County Manager, wanted to mention the Budget that is about to be presented does include funding for employee compensation but how that funding is to be allocated will be addressed in the future through an augmentation of the budget. He also wanted to assure the Board they will be working more aggressively to ensure the issue is covered thoroughly and completely and will hopefully be part of the final budget at time of adoption in the future.

Christine Vuletich, Assistant County Manager/CFO, explained to the Board that nothing has changed since they presented the Budget on May 4, 2015. Ms. Vuletich and Marcie Schurke, Budget Analyst II, then provided a brief recap of all funds combined, and a summary of all budgets combined and by budget type. Ms. Vuletich also provided a brief explanation of what has been accomplished and the Five-year Forecast.

Chief Tod Carlini, East Fork Fire District, wanted to make a similar disclaimer as the County Manager with regards to employee compensation. They have two Articles that are open (Articles 6 & 7) of the Employee Association contracts and those are the money articles. They have also included funds for a position upgrade due to a future retirement. They are working out a few details relative to cost allocation so there might be some minor changes there.

Ms. Vuletich concluded their presentation and stated their requested Board action is to adopt the proposed FY 2015-16 budgets.

Commissioner Thaler asked Ms. Vuletich where the funding for employee compensation is coming from. Ms. Vuletich responded it is in salaries and benefits. Commissioner Thaler then asked Chief Carlini the same question. Chief Carlini responded their compensation is vested in what is considered Board designated. They have also budgeted for insurance costs.

Commissioner Penzel asked for clarification on pages 4 & 14. On page 4 it shows Redevelopment District and \$7.1 million and on page 14 it shows Redevelopment Agency and \$5.4 million. Ms. Vuletich and Ms. Schurke believe this is a typographical error and the \$5.4 million on page 14 is correct. Commissioner Penzel mentioned adding an extra ring to the slide on page 6 and naming it Infrastructure since Infrastructure is one of the highest priorities. Ms. Vuletich responded they still have Infrastructure as a priority and it's been a priority for the past several years. While they are still focused on Infrastructure they believed the Board had directed them to make Organizational Stability a higher priority this year in developing the Budget.

PUBLIC COMMENT

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Shawnyne Garren, DCEA President, summed up the employees frustration of not being recognized and compensated for all their hard work. She stated the employees were willing to be part of the solution 5 years ago by taking needed reductions in hours and salary to assist in bringing the budget to a state of wellbeing. She then suggested another solution; allocating some of the funds from the Regional Transportation Fund to the employees.

Trent Tholen, DCEA Vice President, stated they are still disappointed with the amount of money being allocated to employee salaries and benefits. However, the employees are optimistic since they know this is simply a budget; an estimate of how money will come in and be spent by the County. Negotiations are still underway and the amount that's allocated to employees right now is not a definite number. He has a high level of appreciation for and confidence in County staff. He believes they can find the resources to compensate employees that will follow the goals and priorities set by the Board. He suggested looking at the Inner Fund Loans Reserve.

Mike Avila, DCEA Secretary, asked the Board to find creative solutions to help resolve the employee compensation issue.

Public comment closed.

Chairman Johnson commented they are working on figuring out a solution. The Board has taken the appropriate steps by having the Comp and Class study done and they are trying to figure out how to compensate people fairly and equally. He stated the employees in Douglas County are some of the best employees he has seen and appreciates all they have done to help in these hard times.

Commissioner Penzel stated he recognizes the issue but it's not going to resolve itself until they have some kind of system in place. He feels we aren't doing anybody any favors by forwarding the budget to the State without having everything resolved. He commented he appreciates the new tone the DCEA took today and thinks it's significant in terms of suggesting solutions.

Commissioner Thaler commented they will continue to work with the County Manager to find solutions. He also appreciated DCEA coming up with some solutions. He's confident it's going to get better he just doesn't know what better is at this point.

MOTION by McDermid/Lynn to adopt the proposed Fiscal Year 2015-16 Budgets; carried unanimously.

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CLOSING PUBLIC COMMENT

Shawnyne Garren, DCEA President, stated she thought the Board had summed up what the employees points are. The employees have zero expectations that money is just sitting out there waiting to be found. They just want to know where the money is being spent and is it being spent or invested in the best way possible.

Public comment closed.

MOTION by Johnson/McDermid to adjourn the meeting; carried unanimously.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 4:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Doug N. Johnson, Chairman
Douglas County Board of Commissioners

ATTEST:

Kathy Lewis, Clerk-Treasurer

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